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link¹ **Pronunciation Key** (lɪŋk)
n.

1. One of the rings or loops forming a chain.
2.
 - a. A unit in a connected series of units: *links of sausage; one link in a molecular chain.*
 - b. A unit in a transportation or communications system.
 - c. A connecting element; a tie or bond: *grandparents, our link with the past.*
3.
 - a. An association; a relationship: *The Alumnae Association is my link to the school's present administration.*
 - b. A causal, parallel, or reciprocal relationship; a correlation: *Researchers have detected a link between smoking and heart disease.*
4. A cuff link.
5. *Abbr. li* A unit of length used in surveying, equal to 0.01 chain, 7.92 inches, or about 20.12 centimeters.
6. A rod or lever transmitting motion in a machine.
7. *Computer Science.* A segment of text or a graphical item that serves as a cross-reference between parts of a hypertext document or between files or hypertext documents. Also called **hotlink**, **hyperlink**.

v. **linked**, **link·ing**, **links**

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v. *tr.*

1. To connect with or as if with a link: *linked the rings to form a chain*. See Synonyms at [join](#).
2. Computer Science. To make a hypertext link in: *linked her webpage to her employer's homepage*.

v. *intr.*

1. To become connected with or as if with a link: *The molecules linked to form a polymer*.
2. Computer Science. To follow a hypertext link: *With a click of the mouse, I linked to the company's website*.

[Middle English *linke*, of Scandinavian origin; akin to Old Norse *hlekk*, **hlenkr*, from **hlenkr*.]

link ¹ *er n.*

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link²  **Pronunciation Key** (lɪŋk)

n.

A torch formerly used for lighting one's way in the streets.

[Possibly from Medieval Latin *linchinus*, *lichnus*, *candle*, from Latin *lychnus*, from Greek *lukhnos*, *lamp*. See *leuk-* in Indo-European Roots.]

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\Link\ (l[i^][ng]k), n. [Prob. corrupted from lint and this for lunt a torch, match, D. lont match; akin to G. lunte, cf. MHG. l["u]nden to burn. Cf. Lunt, Linstock.] A torch made of tow and pitch, or the like. --Shak.

[Free Trial - Merriam-Webster Unabridged.]

Source: *Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary*, © 1996, 1998 MICRA, Inc.

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\Link\, n. [OE. linke, AS. hlence; akin to Sw. l["a]nk ring of a chain, Dan. l[ae]nke chain, Icel. hlekk; cf. G. gelenk joint, link, ring of a chain, lenken to bend.] 1. A single ring or division of a chain.

2. Hence: Anything, whether material or not, which binds together, or connects, separate things; a part of a connected series; a tie; a bond. ``Links of iron." --Shak.

[Free Trial - Merriam-Webster Unabridged.]

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\Link\, v. i. To be connected.

No one generation could link with the other. --Burke.

[Free Trial - Merriam-Webster Unabridged.]

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\Link\ (l[i^][ng]k), v. t. [imp. & p. p. Linked (l[i^][ng]kt); p. pr. & vb. n. Linking.] To connect or unite with a link or as with a link; to join; to attach; to unite; to couple.

All the tribes and nations that composed it [the Roman Empire] were linked together, not only by the same laws and the same government, but by all the facilities of commodious intercourse, and of frequent communication. --Eustace.

[Free Trial - Merriam-Webster Unabridged.]

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\Link\, n. [See Linch.] 1. A hill or ridge, as a sand hill, or a wooded or turfey bank between cultivated fields, etc. [Scot. & Prov. Eng.]

2. A winding of a river; also, the ground along such a winding; a meander; -- usually in pl. [Scot.]

The windings or "links" of the Forth above and below Stirling are extremely tortuous. --Encyc. Brit.

3. pl. Sand hills with the surrounding level or undulating land, such as occur along the seashore, a river bank, etc. [Scot.]

Golf may be played on any park or common, but its original home is the "links" or common land which is found by the seashore, where the short close tuft, the sandy subsoil, and the many natural obstacles in the shape of bents, whins, sand holes, and banks, supply the conditions which are essential to the proper pursuit of the game. --Encyc. of Sport.

[Free Trial - Merriam-Webster Unabridged.]

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n 1: the means of connection between things linked in series [syn: nexus] 2: a fastener that serves to join or link; "the walls are held together with metal links placed in the wet mortar during construction" [syn: linkup, tie, tie-in] 3: the state of being connected; "the connection between church and state is inescapable" [syn: connection, connectedness] [ant: disjunction] 4: a connecting shape [syn: connection, connexion] 5: a unit of length equal to 1/100 of a chain 6: (computing) an instruction that connects one part of a program or an element on a list to another program or list 7: a channel for communication between groups; "he provided a liaison with the guerrillas" [syn: liaison, contact, inter-group communication] 8: a two-way radio communication system (usually microwave); part of a more extensive telecommunication network [syn: radio link] 9: an interconnecting circuit between two or more locations for the purpose of transmitting and receiving data [syn: data link] v

1: make a logical or causal connection; "I cannot connect these two pieces of evidence in my mind"; "colligate these facts"; "I cannot relate these events at all" [syn: associate, tie in, relate, colligate, link up, connect] [ant: decouple] 2: connect, fasten, or put together two or more pieces; "Can you connect the two loudspeakers?"; "Tie the ropes together"; "Link arms" [syn: connect, tie, link up] [ant: disconnect] 3: be or become joined or united or linked; "The two streets connect to become a highway"; "Our paths joined"; "The travelers linked up again at the airport" [syn: connect, link up, join, unite] 4: link with or as with a yoke; "yoke the oxen together" [syn: yoke]

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1. <file system> hard link or symbolic link.

2. <hypertext> hyperlink.

(1997-10-22)

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